



NCSL MEMO

NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* STATE LEGISLATURES

To: Interim Committee on Home Based Child Care
From: Steffanie Clothier
Date: 9/7/2007
Subject: Testimony Follow-up

Below please find additional information about topics the committee requested information about. These include:

- States that provide programs for high school students to prepare for careers in child care
- Information about how Kansas approached in-home providers
- Strong regulatory structures

I. Child care training for high school students. There are four states that we could identify that provide some focus on high school students and their careers in child care: Delaware, Montana, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

Vermont coordinates with the Department of Employment and Training is to ensure that the workforce is prepared for careers in child care. The main focus of this collaboration is the apprenticeship program and supporting Vermont Technical Centers to work with high school students interested in child care careers. (from CCDF State Plans 2004-2005)

Vermont Department for Children and Families
Child Development Division
CDD, A Building
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05671-5500
Phone: 802-241-4690
Toll Free: 800-649-2642
Fax: 802-241-4676
Web Site: <http://www.dcf.state.vt.us/cdd/>

Montana's plan is inclusive of all types of early childhood practitioners in all types of settings, and features a Career Path with nine levels from pre-professional to a doctorate degree with an early childhood emphasis. The Pre-Professional Level brings beginning caregivers and even high school students onto the path with minimal training and experience. (From CCDF State Plans 2006 - 2007)

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services

Human and Community Services Division

Phone: 406-444-1828

Toll Free: 866-239-0458, ext. 7

Fax: 406-444-2547

Web Site: <http://www.childcare.mt.gov>

Articulation between educational institutions has been in place in **Delaware** for several years. There is 2-year to 4-year articulation across the State and technical preparation programs. Nineteen comprehensive high schools offer an early care and education pathway, and each can negotiate technical preparation program agreements with 2-year colleges. Articulation of community-based training for college credit continues to be available on an individual basis using assessment by prior learning, which may vary from institution to institution. (From CCDF State Plans 2006-2007)

Delaware Health and Social Services

Division of Social Services

Phone: 302-255-9643

Toll Free: 800-372-2022

Fax: 302-255-4425

Web Site: <http://www.state.de.us/dhss/dss/dsshome.html>

New Hampshire's Professional Development System begins at the pre-credential level for 16-year-olds performing entry-level child care and camp counseling, and continues through the doctoral level. There are five State credentials, each with four levels. Sixteen Vocational Technical High School Early Childhood Education Programs prepare practitioners for the Child Care Assistant credential. Ten child care resource and referral programs offer basic workshops in all core knowledge areas defined by the professional development system, which are required for the Child Care Assistant credential. Eight Community Technical Colleges and several private 2-year colleges offer certificates and associate degrees in early childhood education to prepare students for the Associate Teacher, Lead Teacher and Director Credential. Six State and private colleges offer bachelor degrees, which satisfy the credential requirements for lead teachers, directors and trainer, mentor and faculty professionals. New Hampshire also offers a number of graduate programs. (From CCDF State Plans 2006-2007)

New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services

Division for Children, Youth and Families

Child Development Bureau

Phone: 603-271-4242

Fax: 603-271-4729

Web Site: <http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/CDB/default.htm>

II. Licensing in Kansas

Kansas law defines child care facility as a facility maintained by a person who has control or custody of one or more children under 16 years of age (but not a family day care home). Family day care homes are defined as providing children with food or lodging for less than 24 hours a day. With maximum of not more than 6 children less than 16 years old and not more than three children less than 18 months (including the caregivers own children) Family day care home providers are required to register (i.e. complete an application and renew annually), required to pay a fee, attest to safety by completing a form, follow a list of requirements. No smoking in any room or enclosed area. Each person maintaining a family day care home may choose to be licensed pursuant to K.S.A. 65-501 through 65-516, rather than registering the home. (citation: Kansas Statutes 65-501)

Family, Friend and Neighbor Care: A pilot is being conducted in 11 southeast Kansas counties. The targeted population is relatives who are providing care in their own home for a related child. Per KEESM 1022 (2), these relative caregivers may include grandparents, great-grandparents, aunts, uncles or a sibling not living in the child's home. Caregivers will be required to attend an orientation held in their county as part of their SRS enrollment responsibilities for payment (KEESM 10034). Relative caregivers will be given two opportunities over a six-month period to attend an orientation. Failure to attend will result in the child care plan/payments being closed with that caregiver per KEESM 10037.1 and alternative care being found by the parent.

Orientations are open to SRS relative caregivers, parents they are serving, and their children. Each session will be 90 minutes in length and will consist of an introduction by SRS staff followed by two separate speakers. Topics may include the importance of and techniques for nutrition, dental hygiene, discipline, literacy, and basic health and safety issues. Presenters may include county extension staff, child care surveyors, and Resource and Referral staff. Sessions will include information on how caregivers can become registered or licensed and adequate time for participate questions and input. Drawings for gifts will be done at the conclusion of each orientation. Children's books and toothbrushes will be given to all children in care. Participants will also be asked to evaluate the event. Orientations have been planned in each of the 11 counties over a six-month period. Relative caregivers will be encouraged to attend more than one orientation and continue to receive any give-aways and prizes at orientations they attend.

Expected results: 1) Provide a strategy to support the entire family, and 2) be supportive of and develop a relationship with relative caregivers receiving payment through the SRS Child Care Subsidy Program. The Pilot focuses on what can be done to assist relative providers in their role as caregivers and early educators. Oral Health Initiative: Through the KACCRRA network, supported with CCDF funds, an Oral Health professional development initiative was begun with private foundation funding from the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund. Approximately 1200 child care providers are expected to attend trainings on oral health. Relevant materials and equipment will be provided. Expected results are better oral health practices in child care settings.

Early Childhood Associate Apprenticeship Program: Through a contract with Butler County Community College, the Kansas Early Childhood Associate Apprenticeship Program provides on the job training, mentoring to assist individuals in obtaining training for an occupation in the early childhood field. The two-year program requires the apprentice to obtain 20 hours of college credit in

early childhood education and 4000 hours of on-the-job training. Completion of the program results in apprentices receiving the CDA and Apprenticeship certificate, with more highly qualified individuals entering and working in early childhood programs. At Lead Agency option, the following relatives: grandparents, great grandparents, aunts, uncles, or siblings (who live in a separate residence from the child in care) may be exempted from health and safety requirements.

(658P(4)(B), '98.41(a)(1)(ii)(A)) Indicate the Lead Agency's policy regarding these relative providers:

More detail: All in or out-of-home relative and in-home non-relative providers must complete a self-assessment checklist for health and safety. They must also pass a Kansas Child Abuse and Neglect Registry Check. A pilot is being conducted in 11 southeast Kansas counties. The targeted population is relatives who are providing care in their own home for a related child. Per KEESM 1022 (2), these relative caregivers may include grandparents, great-grandparents, aunts, uncles or a sibling not living in the child's home.

Caregivers are required to attend an orientation held in their county as part of their SRS enrollment responsibilities for payment (KEESM 10034). Relative caregivers will be given two opportunities over a six-month period to attend an orientation. Failure to attend will result in the child care plan/payments being closed with that caregiver per KEESM 10037.1 and alternative care being found by the parent. (KS CCDF State Plan 2006-2007.

III. Regulatory Structure

State lawmakers interested in designing a strong regulatory structure can consider the recommendations of ***Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards*** from the American Academy Of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association, and National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (2002). (*Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care Programs, 2nd edition*. Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics and Washington, DC: American Public Health Association) http://nrc.uchsc.edu/CFOC/HTMLVersion/Chapter_9.html Chapter 9 contains recommendations about regulation structure.

13 Indicators of Quality Child Care: Research Update, This report provides guidance for state child care agencies as they think about revising their state child care regulations. The brief is based upon a synthesis of literature around the health and safety standards for out-of-home child care found in *Stepping Stones to Using Caring for Our Children*, using 13 predictor/indicator topics to provide focus. The brief examines evidence that exists to support how these standards protect children from harm. The audiences for this research brief are state administrators and policymakers, child care providers, and early childhood researchers. <http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/ccquality-ind02/index.htm>